

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) A device for sliding on snow, said device having a mounting aid or binding plate for a binding or components thereof, said aid being mounted on the top face of the device, said mounting aid having approximately the same properties as the associated portion of the device with respect to at least flexibility, torsion, and thermal expansion, said mounting aid being welded or bonded entirely without screws to the top face of the device, wherein said device and said mounting aid form an integral constructional unit in respect of mechanical properties, wherein said mounting aid comprises at least one of snap-in lugs and detent apertures, spaced from one another in the longitudinal direction of the device, configured for the snap-in positioning and fixing of a binding or components thereof.

21. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 20, wherein said mounting aid has approximately the same values as the associated attachment portion in terms of properties including

- thermal expansion,
- tensile strength,
- flexural strength and torsional rigidity.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 20, wherein said mounting aid is welded or bonded over the whole surface to the top face of the device.

24. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 20, wherein said mounting aid comprises a longitudinal guide with undercut operative to provide longitudinal positioning and fixing of the binding or of binding components.

25. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 24, wherein said mounting aid is a plate having a cross-section selected from the group consisting of T-shaped and U-shaped cross-sections, the two upwardly projecting arms in the latter case each being oriented in a manner selected from the group consisting of drawn inwards and being directed to protrude laterally outwards.

26. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 20, wherein said mounting aid is in the form of a binding plate and has a construction selected from the group consisting of two-part construction, having a front portion and a rear portion, and one-part construction, the front and rear portions of the binding plate in the latter case being connected to one another by a connection piece or similar connecting portion.

27. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 26, wherein said connecting portion is of narrower form and thinner wall thickness than the front and rear portions of the said binding plate.

28. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 26, wherein said connecting portion is displaceable in the longitudinal direction of the device relative to the front and/or the rear portion of the binding plate.

29. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 26, wherein arrangements are provided only in the regions selected from the group consisting of the region of the front portion, the region of the rear portion, and the region of the front portion and the region of the rear portion of the binding plate for the longitudinal positioning and fixing of the binding.

30. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 20, wherein at the side associated with the device top-face, the said mounting aid has nipple-like or stud-like lugs, said lugs corresponding to complementary recesses provided in the top face of the device.

31. Canceled

32. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 20, wherein the mounting aid consists of a material selected from the group consisting of a plastics material, a wood laminate, a plastics/wood laminate, a plastics/metal laminate, and a plastics/wood laminate and a plastics/metal laminate.

33-37. (Canceled)

38. (Previously presented) A mounting aid or binding plate for mounting a binding or components thereof on a device according to claim 20, wherein said mounting aid comprises a longitudinal guide with undercut.

39. (Previously presented) A mounting aid according to claim 38, wherein said mounting aid has tapped holes for fixing a binding or binding components or a heel plate.

40. (Previously presented) A mounting aid according to claim 38, which in plan view is waisted and comprises a central connecting portion which is of narrower form and/or thinner wall thickness than a front and/or rear portion.

41. (Previously presented) The device of Claim 20, wherein the mounting aid is laser welded to the top face of the device.

42. (Previously presented) The device of Claim 20, wherein the mounting aid is friction welded to the top face of the device.

43. (Currently amended) A device for sliding on snow, said device having a mounting aid or binding plate for a binding or components thereof, said aid being mounted on the top face of the device, said mounting aid being bonded entirely without screws to the top face of the device, wherein said mounting aid comprises at least one of snap-in lugs and detent apertures, spaced from one another in the longitudinal direction of the device, configured for the snap-in positioning and fixing of a binding or components thereof.

44. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 43, wherein said mounting aid has approximately the same values as the associated attachment portion in terms of properties including

- thermal expansion,
- tensile strength,
- flexural strength and torsional rigidity.

45. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 43, wherein said mounting aid is welded or bonded over the whole surface to the top face of the device.

46. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 43, wherein said mounting aid comprises a longitudinal guide with undercut operative to provide longitudinal positioning and fixing of the binding or of binding components.

47. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 46, wherein said mounting aid is a plate having a cross-section selected from the group consisting of T-shaped and U-shaped cross-sections, the two upwardly projecting arms in the latter case each being oriented in a manner selected from the group consisting of drawn inwards and being directed to protrude laterally outwards.

48. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 43, wherein said mounting aid is in the form of a binding plate and has a construction selected from the group consisting of two-part construction, having a front portion and a rear portion, and one-part construction, the front and rear portions of the binding plate in the latter case being connected to one another by a connection piece or similar connecting portion.

49. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 48, wherein said connecting portion is of narrower form and thinner wall thickness than the front and rear portions of the said binding plate.

50. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 48, wherein said connecting portion is displaceable in the longitudinal direction of the device relative to the front and/or the rear portion of the binding plate.

51. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 48, wherein arrangements are provided only in the regions selected from the group consisting of the region of the front portion, the region of the rear portion, and the region of the front portion and the region of the rear portion of the binding plate for the longitudinal positioning and fixing of the binding.

52. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 43, wherein at the side associated with the device top-face, the said mounting aid has nipple-like or stud-like lugs, said lugs corresponding to complementary recesses provided in the top face of the device.

53. Canceled

54. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 43, wherein the mounting aid consists of a material selected from the group consisting of a plastics material, a wood laminate, a plastics/wood laminate, a plastics/metal laminate, and a plastics/wood laminate and a plastics/metal laminate.

55. (Previously presented) A mounting aid or binding plate for mounting a binding or components thereof on a device according to claim 43, wherein said mounting aid comprises a longitudinal guide with undercut.

56. (Previously presented) A mounting aid according to claim 55, wherein said mounting aid has tapped holes for fixing a binding or binding components or a heel plate.

57. (Previously presented) A mounting aid according to claim 55, which in plan view is waisted and comprises a central connecting portion which is of narrower form and/or thinner wall thickness than a front and/or rear portion.

58. (Currently amended) A device for sliding on snow, said device having a mounting aid or binding plate for a binding or components thereof, said aid being mounted on the top face of the device, said mounting aid being bonded over its whole surface with adhesive to the top face of the device-, wherein the adhesive comprises a layer having a maximum thickness of 5 to 10% of a thickness of the mounting aid or binding plate.

59. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 58, wherein said mounting aid has approximately the same values as the associated attachment portion in terms of properties including

- thermal expansion,
- tensile strength,
- flexural strength and torsional rigidity.

60. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 58, wherein said mounting aid is welded or bonded over the whole surface to the top face of the device.

61. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 58, wherein said mounting aid comprises a longitudinal guide with undercut operative to provide longitudinal positioning and fixing of the binding or of binding components.

62. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 61, wherein said mounting aid is a plate having a cross-section selected from the group consisting of T-shaped and U-shaped cross-sections, the two upwardly projecting arms in the latter case each being oriented in a manner selected from the group consisting of drawn inwards and being directed to protrude laterally outwards.

63. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 58, wherein said mounting aid is in the form of a binding plate and has a construction selected from the group consisting of two-part construction, having a front portion and a rear portion, and one-part construction, the front and rear portions of the binding plate in the latter case being connected to one another by a connection piece or similar connecting portion.

64. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 63, wherein said connecting portion is of narrower form and thinner wall thickness than the front and rear portions of the said binding plate.

65. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 63, wherein said connecting portion is displaceable in the longitudinal direction of the device relative to the front and/or the rear portion of the binding plate.

66. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 63, wherein arrangements are provided only in the regions selected from the group consisting of the region of the front portion, the region of the rear portion, and the region of the front portion and the region of the rear portion of the binding plate for the longitudinal positioning and fixing of the binding.

67. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 58, wherein at the side associated with the device top-face, the said mounting aid has nipple-like or stud-like lugs, said lugs corresponding to complementary recesses provided in the top face of the device.

68. (Currently amended) A device according to claim 58, wherein ~~there are formed on the said mounting aid means selected from the group consisting~~ comprises at least one of snap-in lugs and detent apertures, spaced from one another in the longitudinal direction of the device, configured for the snap-in positioning and fixing of a binding or components thereof.

69. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 58, wherein the mounting aid consists of a material selected from the group consisting of a plastics material, a wood laminate, a plastics/wood laminate, a plastics/metal laminate, and a plastics/wood laminate and a plastics/metal laminate.

70. (Previously presented) A mounting aid or binding plate for mounting a binding or components thereof on a device according to claim 58, wherein said mounting aid comprises a longitudinal guide with undercut.

71. (Previously presented) A mounting aid according to claim 70, wherein said mounting aid has tapped holes for fixing a binding or binding components or a heel plate.

72. (Previously presented) A mounting aid according to claim 70, which in plan view is waisted and comprises a central connecting portion which is of narrower form and/or thinner wall thickness than a front and/or rear portion.

73. (Previously presented) A device for sliding on snow, said device having a mounting aid or binding plate for a binding or components thereof, said aid being mounted on the top face of the device, said mounting aid being encapsulated by the top face of the device.

74. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 73, wherein said mounting aid has approximately the same values as the associated attachment portion in terms of properties including

- thermal expansion,
- tensile strength,
- flexural strength and torsional rigidity.

75. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 73, wherein said mounting aid is welded or bonded over the whole surface to the top face of the device.

76. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 73, wherein said mounting aid comprises a longitudinal guide with undercut operative to provide longitudinal positioning and fixing of the binding or of binding components.

77. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 76, wherein said mounting aid is a plate having a cross-section selected from the group consisting of T-shaped and U-shaped cross-sections, the two upwardly projecting arms in the latter case each being oriented in a manner selected from the group consisting of drawn inwards and being directed to protrude laterally outwards.

78. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 73, wherein said mounting aid is in the form of a binding plate and has a construction selected from the group consisting of two-part construction, having a front portion and a rear portion, and one-part construction, the front and rear portions of the binding plate in the latter case being connected to one another by a connection piece or similar connecting portion.

79. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 78, wherein said connecting portion is of narrower form and thinner wall thickness than the front and rear portions of the said binding plate.

80. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 78, wherein said connecting portion is displaceable in the longitudinal direction of the device relative to the front and/or the rear portion of the binding plate.

81. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 78, wherein arrangements are provided only in the regions selected from the group consisting of the region of the front portion, the region of the rear portion, and the region of the front portion and the region of the rear portion of the binding plate for the longitudinal positioning and fixing of the binding.

82. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 73, wherein at the side associated with the device top-face, the said mounting aid has nipple-like or stud-like lugs, said lugs corresponding to complementary recesses provided in the top face of the device.

83. (Currently amended) A device according to claim 73, wherein ~~there are formed on the said mounting aid means selected from the group consisting~~ comprises at least one of snap-in lugs and detent apertures, spaced from one another in the longitudinal direction of the device, configured for the snap-in positioning and fixing of a binding or components thereof.

84. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 73, wherein the mounting aid consists of a material selected from the group consisting of a plastics material, a wood laminate, a plastics/wood laminate, a plastics/metal laminate, and a plastics/wood laminate and a plastics/metal laminate.

85. (Previously presented) A mounting aid or binding plate for mounting a binding or components thereof on a device according to claim 73, wherein said mounting aid comprises a longitudinal guide with undercut.

86. (Previously presented) A mounting aid according to claim 85, wherein said mounting aid has tapped holes for fixing a binding or binding components or a heel plate.

87. (Previously presented) A mounting aid according to claim 85, which in plan view is waisted and comprises a central connecting portion which is of narrower form and/or thinner wall thickness than a front and/or rear portion.